

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for administering devices in a network, the method comprising:

creating a user metric vector comprising a plurality of disparate user metrics;

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creating a user metric space comprising a plurality of metric ranges;

determining whether the user metric vector is outside the user metric space;

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if the user metric vector is outside a user metric space, identifying an action in dependence upon the user metric vector;

determining whether the action is allowed; and

if the action is allowed, executing the action.

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2. The method of claim 1 wherein determining whether the action is allowed comprises comparing the identified action with an allowed action list.

3. The method of claim 1 comprising identifying an allowed replacement action, if the identified action is not allowed.

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4. The method of claim 3 wherein identifying an allowed replacement action

comprises comparing the identified action with an allowed action list

5. The method of claim 3 comprising executing the allowed replacement action.
6. The method of claim 1 comprising receiving an allowed action list.

7. A system for administering devices in a network, the system comprising:
 - means for creating a user metric vector comprising a plurality of disparate user metrics;
 - 5 means for creating a user metric space comprising a plurality of metric ranges;
 - means for determining whether the user metric vector is outside the user metric space;
 - 10 if the user metric vector is outside a user metric space, means for identifying an action in dependence upon the user metric vector;
 - means for determining whether the action is allowed; and
 - 15 if the action is allowed, means for executing the action.
8. The system of claim 7 wherein means for determining whether the action is allowed comprises means for comparing the identified action with an allowed action list.
9. The system of claim 7 comprising means for identifying an allowed replacement action, if the identified action is not allowed.
10. The system of claim 9 wherein means for identifying an allowed replacement action comprises means for comparing the identified action with an allowed action list

11. The system of claim 9 comprising means for executing the allowed replacement action.
12. The system of claim 7 comprising means for receiving an allowed action list.

13. A computer program product for administering devices in a network, the computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for creating a user metric vector comprising a plurality of disparate user metrics;

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for creating a user metric space comprising a plurality of metric ranges;

means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining whether the user metric vector is outside the user metric space;

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if the user metric vector is outside a user metric space, means, recorded on the recording medium, for identifying an action in dependence upon the user metric vector;

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means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining whether the action is allowed; and

if the action is allowed, means, recorded on the recording medium, for executing the action.

14. The computer program product of claim 13 wherein means, recorded on the recording medium, for determining whether the action is allowed comprises means, recorded on the recording medium, for comparing the identified action

with an allowed action list.

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15. The computer program product of claim 13 comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for identifying an allowed replacement action, if the identified action is not allowed.
 16. The computer program product of claim 15 wherein means, recorded on the recording medium, for identifying an allowed replacement action comprises means, recorded on the recording medium, for comparing the identified action with an allowed action list
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17. The computer program product of claim 15 comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for executing the allowed replacement action.
 18. The computer program product of claim 13 comprising means, recorded on the recording medium, for receiving an allowed action list.